

## ITINERARY 1

### THE CITY SIGHTS TOUR

The City of London is best explored on foot. World attractions are just minutes away from each other and you'll find a host of lesser known City secrets along your way. This itinerary takes you from one side of the City to the other - west to east, a whistle stop tour which costs nothing but shoe leather! You can follow the whole trail easily in a day - but you'll find so many things to see that you may want to just stop and spend time in the attractions themselves. Most will be open seven days a week but some have restricted opening times and this will be noted on the information about them. We hope this route will give you an idea of just how much the City does have to offer. Stop and start it wherever suits you. Print it off, get a map, and start to discover your City.

#### START ► Temple tube station



Exit station, turn left into Temple Place, left again and then first right into Arundel Street: you are now in the Strand. Turn right. The church just ahead of you is St Clement Danes (the Central Church of the Royal Air Force). Just past the church, further to your left you will see



#### The Royal Courts of Justice

This is the Supreme Court of England and Wales, an imposing gothic building that has been the scene of many famous court cases including (most recently) the divorce of Sir Paul McCartney and Heather Mills.



As you are leaving the Strand, at the very beginning of Fleet Street, in the middle of the street you will see a statue of the City Dragon. You are now entering the area of London called the City of London.

*Did you know that even the Queen has to ask permission from the Lord Mayor of the City of London to enter the City?*



Carry on until you reach Middle Temple Lane on your right. Turn right, you are now entering the Inns of Court of the Inner and

*Middle Temples. A little further down Middle Temple Lane is Middle Temple Hall. Immediately on your left you will find directions for Temple Church.*



#### Middle Temple Hall

In the Middle Ages, the need for trainee lawyers led to the founding of hostels (Inns of Court) where they could live and study. Nowadays, there are few residents with most of the accommodation being leased to barristers. Middle Temple Hall was built in the 1560s-70s and is reputed to be the place where Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* was first performed in 1602.



Open Monday to Friday



#### Temple Church

Built in the 12th century by the Knights Templar (an order of crusading monks who protected pilgrims on their way to and from Jerusalem), this wonderful and unusual church has become an essential destination for followers of Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* (in which it is heavily featured). Unlike the conventional cross layout used for most churches, it was designed to recall the holiest place in the Crusaders' world, the circular Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem (a Norman chancel was added later and is not part of the original church). Inside, laid out on the floor are nine life-sized marble effigies of Knights Templar - the oldest dating from 1227. These are best seen when sunlight streams through the windows above creating an almost mystical effect.



The church is not always open to the public



From the church entrance turn left then left again and cut through Mitre Court back onto Fleet Street - turn right



#### Fleet Street

Named for the river that still flows beneath it, Fleet Street was the home of the British newspaper industry until the 1980s. Publishing started here around 1500 when William Caxton's apprentice, Wynkyn de Worde, set up a printing shop near Shoe Lane. More printers and publishers were to follow and, in 1702, the world's first daily newspaper, *The Daily Courant*, was published here. Fleet Street is a location on

the London Monopoly board and is also famous for its associations with Sweeney Todd (the Demon Barber of Fleet Street).



*On your right at 47 Fleet Street, you will see a wine bar called*



### **El Vino**

Reputedly the bar on which *Rumpole of the Bailey's* favourite watering hole is based (the fictional Pommeroy's). Until 1983, this bar was peculiar in that ladies were not allowed to stand and be served (they could be served while being seated, but only men could stand at the bar).



*Cross over Fleet Street, turn right and you will see a number of alleyways off to the left, all well signposted, that will lead you to*



### **Dr Johnson's House**

This is a great example of residential homes built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Samuel Johnson lived here from 1748 and 1759 and this is where the first comprehensive English dictionary was compiled.

 **Open Monday to Saturday**



*Coming back onto Fleet Street, at number 145 you will notice a pub called*



### **Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese**

This is one of the few remaining old-style London pubs with tiny rooms, oak beams, narrow passageways and that wonderful gloomy pub charm. Rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1666, its vaulted cellars are thought to have been part of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Carmelite monastery that stood there. It is said that regulars included Oliver Goldsmith, Mark Twain and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and it is famously mentioned in Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*. Perhaps though, it is best known for its resident parrot, Polly. There seem to be two stories connected to her – one, that she swore a lot; two, that on Armistice night in 1918, she imitated the popping of champagne corks some 400 times. Polly died in 1926 and her obituary appeared in hundreds of

newspapers (probably due to the number of journalists that were customers). Polly still inhabits the pub, stuffed and in a glass case,



*Continue along Fleet Street – and on the same side of the road you will notice a large black and glass building at 121-128 Fleet Street*



### **Daily Express Building**

There are still many traces of the street's glory days at the heart of the newspaper industry. Of particular note is this fine Art Deco building designed by Ellis and Clarke with Sir Owen Williams (1930-32), with interiors by Robert Atkinson. Covered with black Vitrolite and clear glass, with chromium strips, the building is reported to be London's first experiment with "curtain walling". The lobby includes plaster reliefs by Eric Aumonier, a silvered pendant lamp and an oval staircase. The building is not open to the public but the magnificent lobby can be seen from the street.



*Almost directly opposite the Daily Express Building, on the other side of the road, you will see*



### **St Bride's Church**

The magnificent tiered spire of this church is thought to be the inspiration behind the modern-day wedding cake. The story goes that in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a pastry chef from Fleet Street – one Mr Rich – copied Sir Christopher Wren's unusual design when creating a cake for his daughter's wedding. The fact that it is the church of St *Bride* is mere coincidence, it being named after St Bride of Kildare – a sixth-century saint.



*Come back down St Bride's Avenue to Fleet Street, turn right and continue to the junction (Ludgate Circus); cross over and continue up Ludgate Hill.*



### **Ludgate Hill and Ludgate Circus**

Tradition has it that Ludgate Hill and Ludgate Circus are named after King Lud and the Lud Gate he built here in 66BC.

Rebuilt in 1215, the gate housed a prison for petty criminals. In 1666, the prisoners were set free in order that they could save themselves from the flames of the Great Fire which devastated the City. The gate was rebuilt and repaired over the years but in 1760, along with other City gates, it was demolished.



*Walk up Ludgate Hill towards St Paul's Cathedral. On your way, to your left, you will see*



### **St Martin-within-Ludgate**

The previous church on this site was destroyed by the Great Fire of 1666. Today's building was designed by Sir Christopher Wren. During the rebuilding work, two Roman memorials were uncovered; one a 7ft high figure of a soldier dedicated to the memory of Vivius Marcianus of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Augustan Legion and the second, a column erected by a slave in memory of his wife. Both are now on display at the Museum of London.

 **Open Monday to Friday**



*Continue up Ludgate Hill to*



### **St Paul's Cathedral**

The mighty dome of St Paul's Cathedral is a prominent feature of the London skyline and one of the nation's best loved landmarks. Designed by Sir Christopher Wren and built between 1675 and 1710, highlights include its crypts (with the tombs of Lord Nelson, the Duke of Wellington and Wren himself), its majestic dome and the unique acoustics of its famous Whispering Gallery (where, if you whisper against the wall on one side of the gallery, it can be heard on the other side, 107ft away). Left to right, the statues on the West Front are St Peter, St Paul and St James. On the North West Tower they are St Matthew and St Mark; on the South West Tower they are St Luke and St John. The current building is the fifth Cathedral to be built here (the first was probably built in 604AD). It took 35 years to build and its architect was one of the first to be buried here in 1723.

 **Open Monday to Saturday**



*At the foot of the steps of the Cathedral you will see*



### **Statue of Queen Anne**

Many think this is a statue of Queen Victoria but it is, in fact, Queen Anne, the ruling monarch at the time the Cathedral was built. Sculpted by RC Belt and LA Malempré, it is a painstaking reproduction of one designed by Sir Francis Bird (the original now stands in the grounds of a country house near Hastings in Sussex). Around the plinth are four allegorical figures, symbolising (it is thought) the conflicts and triumphs of Anne's reign as well as the realms over which she ruled. They are Britannia (with the fork), France (with a helmet), Ireland (with a harp) and America. A story relating to this statue that may or may not be true is that, in 1897, at the time of her Diamond Jubilee celebrations, Queen Victoria's carriage needed to negotiate the statue to reach the Cathedral. It was proposed that the statue should be moved but Victoria refused, saying "Move Queen Anne? Most certainly not! Why it might some day be suggested that *my* statue should be moved, which I should much dislike".



*If you are facing Queen Anne look right. Across and slightly up the street towards the right, you will see a very modern 'silver looking' building, this is*



### **The City of London Information Centre**

*Cross over and pop in for leaflets and information about the City. Open 7-days-a-week 9.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sundays.*

Completed in late 2007 and designed by Make architects, the City Information Centre combines simplicity and efficiency of form. A folded metallic envelope, triangular in plan, seamlessly wraps the internal accommodation and gives the structure a sense of lightness. Positioned so as to address St Paul's Cathedral, its cutting-edge design sits harmoniously with its grand neighbour, providing the flawless juxtaposition of ancient and modern architecture that is so typical of the City's landscape. For those wanting facts and

stats – its exterior comprises 220 stainless steel panels which were shipped from Sweden; its steel frame was brought by truck from Bolton on a Sunday and erected in just one night; its toilet flushes using rainwater collected from its roof; it is heated and cooled using a system called “geothermal” where water is pumped 60m into the ground via two boreholes (the water is then cooled or heated by the ground and pumped back up to heat or cool the centre depending on the season); and the interior yellow panels are made of a recycled timber product called Trespa and form a unique jigsaw, each fitting only to its rightful place.



*Back on the main steps of St Paul's, facing Queen Anne's statue, look to your left and you will see*



### Temple Bar

The City originally had eight gateways - Aldgate, Aldersgate, Bishopsgate, Cripplegate, Ludgate, Moorgate, Newgate and Temple Bar – all except this one were demolished before the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Attributed to Sir Christopher Wren and built of Portland stone in 1672, it used to stand at the point where Fleet Street now meets the Strand (hence its name derives from the nearby Temple law courts). In 1878, the Bar was dismantled because it became too expensive to maintain and was the cause of traffic congestion. Each stone was labelled and put in storage until a suitable site could be found to re-erect it. In 1880, Sir Henry Meux bought the stones and rebuilt it as a gateway to his park and mansion at Theobalds Park (near Cheshunt). In 2001, the Bar was returned to the City and re-erected as the pedestrian gateway to Paternoster Square (its current location), opening in November 2004. It displays its four original statues (Charles I, Charles II, James I and Queen Anne of Denmark) carved by John Bushnell, and new statues depicting the royal beasts, City supporters and associated coats of arms.



*Pass under Temple Bar into*



### Paternoster Square

This square can trace its origins to medieval Paternoster Row, where the clergy of St Paul's once walked holding their rosary beads and reciting the 'Paternoster' or Lord's Prayer (Paternoster translates as 'Our Father'). Soon, the area was a hub for peddlers of spiritual goods who relied on the passing trade of pilgrims visiting St Paul's. Mercers, stationers and lace-makers joined the mix, and the area remained a place of general business until the Great Fire of 1666. After the fire's destruction of much of the surrounding property, the stationers and publishers moved in; and the taverns and coffee houses (including the famous Chapter coffee house) that sprang up nearby, played host to many famous authors including Oliver Goldsmith, Thomas Chatterton and Charlotte Brontë. At the same time, the square itself became the site of Newgate Meat Market, and remained so until the Central Meat Market at Smithfield opened in 1868. In the winter of 1940, the square was destroyed again, this time, by enemy action. A retail and office development rose out of the ashes in the 1960s but this soon fell out of popularity, with many units left vacant by the 1970s. A number of proposals to rebuild the square were put forward and rejected, until a masterplan by Whitfield Partners was finally accepted in 1995. The new development you see today restores the lines of the ancient streets surrounding the square and reclaims the public space that is the square itself.



*As you enter Paternoster Square you will see centrally located*



### The Paternoster Column

Made of Portland stone, Cornish granite and gilded copper (the urn), the column is situated at the centre point of the square and stands 23.3m tall. It is part of a ventilation system for the traffic and car park beneath but its classic design follows an ancient tradition of marking places of significance with monumental structures. The column is similar to those designed by Inigo Jones for the west portico of the old St Paul's Cathedral. Destroyed during the construction of Wren's present day building, columns of almost identical proportions and design can still be viewed at the west, north and south porticos of the Cathedral. Running through the central service hole of the column are a lightning conductor and fibre optic cables for night

lighting of the urn, which was designed to provide a visual reference to a fire beacon, and thus fulfil the column's purpose as a marker. The urn also reflects the finials on the west towers of today's St Paul's and commemorates the fact that the site has been destroyed twice by fire - the Great Fire of 1666 and during the Blitz.



*Here, take the time to have a look around and explore this modern 'piazza': on your right you will notice a sculpture called*



### **Paternoster**

This bronze on a York stone plinth, was created by Elisabeth Frink in 1975. It is suggested that it was inspired by Frink's stay in the mountainous region of Cevennes (France), where sheep and shepherds are a part of the everyday landscape, as well as by her admiration for Picasso's 1944 bronze, *Man with Sheep*. The subject chosen may also have derived from a wilful confusion on Frink's part between the pater of Paternoster (father) and pastor (shepherd). Whatever the case, it is probable that Frink was not entirely free to choose and that influence was brought to bear by those who commissioned it, given its close proximity to St Paul's. The evidence for this comes, not only from the religious connotations of the piece, but from the 'androgynous' looking shepherd and his flock - a characteristic not typical of Frink who was well known for her well-endowed subjects.



*If you look up and beyond Paternoster Column, in direction of 10 Paternoster Square, where the London Stock Exchange is situated, you will see*



### **Noon Mark**

Designed and cut by the Lida Cardozo Kindersley Workshop with the diallist Frank King, the noon-mark, when viewed in good sunlight at midday, casts its shadow to reveal what day of the year it is.



*With Temple Bar directly behind you, exit Paternoster Square via the alleyway in front of you - this will take you onto Newgate Street; turn right and cross the road at the*

*pedestrian crossing so that you are facing the garden surrounded by church ruins*



### **Christ Church Newgate (or Greyfriars)**

Within the ruins of this church, which was bombed during the Second World War, is a garden. The rose beds sit where the original pews would have been and clematis and climbing roses weave their way up 10 tall wooden poles which represent the pillars that once held the roof.



*You are now on King Edward Street. Cross again at the traffic lights and keep walking along the same street - on your left, across the road you will see*



### **Statue of Rowland Hill**

Created by Edward Onslow Ford in 1881, this statue commemorates the man who founded Penny Postage (the City of London was an advocate in his fight to do so). This statue is aptly placed, as across the road is Postman's Park (see below)



*Walk down a little further and enter*



### **Postman's Park**

This park is so called because the General Post Office used to be located on its southern boundary (to your right as you enter) and because the postmen working there spent their lunch hours enjoying the park's tranquillity.



*Walk across the park and on your left you will see the*



### **Memorial to heroic sacrifice**

Known as the Watts' Memorial Cloister, this small corner of Postman's Park commemorates the selfless acts of everyday heroes who lost their lives saving others. It comprises a wall of 53 hand-lettered Doulton tiles which tell the stories of those who may otherwise have been forgotten. The brainchild of eminent Victorian painter G F Watts (1817-1904), the memorial was a plot device in the film *Closer* when Jude Law (Dan) finds that the

Natalie Portman character “borrowed” her name – Alice Ayres – from one of the forgotten heroes featured on the tile. Alice Ayres lost her young life saving three children.



*Take a little time to read the moving stories here before leaving the park by the exit nearest to the memorial. As you leave, to your left is*



### **St Botolph-without-Aldersgate**

Located by one of the City’s old gates (Aldersgate – now long gone), it sustained a little damage in the Great Fire of 1666 and was rebuilt by Nathaniel Wright in 1788-1791. The unexciting exterior belies the church’s interior which is Victorian. Panelled columns, original wooden galleries, Victorian pews, 19<sup>th</sup>-century stained glass, red and yellow floor tiles and an elaborate Baroque barrel-vaulted roof with huge plaster rosettes make a peep inside a rewarding experience.

 **Open for services on Tuesdays 1pm**



*Cross over the street and turn left. To your right you will see a covered entrance way with an escalator – look out for a red sign pointing at the Museum of London - take the escalator up to the high level walkway above and head to the entrance of the*



### **Museum of London**

Although undergoing a £20.5m development, there’s still plenty of reason to visit the Museum. Its time-themed galleries on the upper level provide a fascinating journey through London’s story from prehistoric times to the Great Fire; and a changing programme of exhibitions and events complements the one million plus exhibits on display. If you’re interested in London’s history there is no better place to be. Check out the foyer display (there is a changing programme of these throughout the year) and enjoy a spot of lunch in the museum’s café (alternatively, take lunch at the next stop – the Barbican).

 **Lunch option here**



*Exit the Museum of London and turn left, (Bastion Highwalk) walk along the high*

*level walkway, look on your right (at ground level), and you will see some of the remains of the*



### **Roman Wall**

The road that this high level walkway passes over is London Wall, named after the City’s Roman wall, the remains of which you will be looking at now. This was the defensive wall built by the Romans around their settlement Londinium (established around AD50). The wall was constructed largely from Kentish ragstone brought by water from Maidstone and enclosed an area of about 330 acres (1.3 km<sup>2</sup>). It was 2 to 3m wide and about 5m high, with a ditch or *fossa* in front of the outer wall measuring some 2m deep by 3 to 5m wide. The wall included a number of bastions (at least 20); this one is perhaps the best-preserved of these. Built in the late 2<sup>nd</sup> century and added to until at least the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> century, the wall was among the last major building projects undertaken by the Romans before their withdrawal from Britain in 410. During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries the wall underwent substantial demolition, although large portions of it survived by being incorporated into other structures. What is interesting to note and a credit to Roman craftsmanship, is that amid the devastation of the Blitz, some of the tallest survivors of the bomb-damaged City were remnants of this wall.



*A bit further along the walkway, still on your right, you will see a building with bright yellow, red and blue pipes – this is*



### **88 Wood Street**

Designed by Richard Rogers, the architect of the Lloyd’s building, 88 Wood Street won a RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) award in 2000.



*Continue along the walkway until you reach a junction. Turn left and on your right, you will see a statue called*



### **Unity**

Of this statue, sculptor and creator Ivan Klapež (1992) said “Controversy is unity. If

two sides pull against each other the same strength, nothing seems to move and equilibrium is achieved in silence..." The joined hands at the centre of the composition are intended to express the idea of the social unit, the self-contained individual, the family group or the nation.



*Continue down the left turn, heading towards the Barbican. Over the balcony to your left, you will see*



### **St Giles without Cripplegate**

It is said that there has been a church on this spot for 1,000 years. Sometime during the Middle Ages, it was dedicated to St Giles, the patron saint of beggars and cripples, although the word "Cripplegate" has little to do with this. It comes from the Anglo-Saxon "crupegate" which means a covered way or tunnel - one of which ran from one of the City's eight gates, Cripplegate to the Barbican, a fortified watchtower on the Roman wall. The church was outside the wall, hence "St Giles without". The current church, built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, escaped the Great Fire of 1666 but was badly burnt in a fire in 1897 and again during the Second World War.

 **Open Monday to Friday**



*Continue along the walkway until you will see an entrance to the Barbican Centre, marked by a large golden sculpture suspended from the wall. This sculpture is:*



### **The Barbican Muse**

Sculpted in 1993-4 by Matthew Spender, this female figure holds in her left hand the masks of Comedy and Tragedy and with her right, points the way to the Barbican Centre. She is nicknamed Zoë after the student that posed for Spender.



*You are now in the **Barbican Centre**.*



### **The Barbican Complex**

Designed by architects Chamberlin, Powell and Bon and completed in 1976 the Barbican Complex was built on a 35-acre site that was bombed and virtually levelled

in the Second World War (the Barbican Centre opened later, in 1982). The complex achieved Grade II listed status in September 2001 being cited as architecturally important and one of London's principal examples of Brutalist architecture (the term deriving from from the French *béton brut* meaning raw concrete). The complex contains three of London's tallest residential towers (at 42 storeys and 123 metres/403 feet high), 13 terrace blocks, the Barbican Centre, Barbican Library, City of London School for Girls and the Guildhall School.

*Take the time to look around, stop for some lunch or explore the external surroundings. See what's on and visit the many exhibitions including Barbican's free exhibition space*



### **The Curve**

Throughout the year, there is usually an exhibition or display in The Curve. These are often new commissions created especially for this space by contemporary artists.

 **Lunch option here**



*Leave the Barbican the same way you came in (by the Library entrance - Level 2). Turn right by the Muse and return along the same walkway, except when you get to the sculpture Unity, carry straight on until you can go no further - on your right is an escalator, take this down to street level. Turn right at the foot of the escalator - you are now on Wood Street, continue straight on. To your left is a police station. This is one of three in the City and is home to the*



### **City of London Police**

As one of the world's leading international financial and business centres, the City requires specialist services to support and protect it. The City of London Police provide them. A force dedicated to looking after this small and distinct area of London, the City Police are separate from the Metropolitan Police which provide for all other parts of London. Named the lead force on fraud and economic crime, the City Police also specialise in counter terrorism. Over 69% of the force's officers are on the front line, one of the highest figures in the country, and it has scored 'excellent' in Reducing Crime and in

Investigating Crime in a recent Police Performance Assessment carried out by the Home Office. This year, crime has fallen here for the fifth consecutive year. This represents a total 21% reduction in crime figures over five years.



*As you walk past the Wood Street Police Station, in front of you is the church tower of*



### **St Alban Wood Street**

Alban was reputedly the first English martyr, murdered by King Offa, the 8<sup>th</sup> century ruler of Mercia. This church is allegedly built on the site of a chapel of King Offa, its medieval predecessor being replaced by the current building by Sir Christopher Wren. A victim of the Blitz, now only the tower remains marooned on a tiny traffic island.



*Go first left after the tower into Love Lane, walk to the end and before you reach Aldermanbury, on your left you will see a garden and a bust of William Shakespeare, which is a memorial*



### **Memorial to John Heminge and Henry Condell / former Churchyard of St Mary Aldermanbury**

Although crowned by a bust of Shakespeare, it is not the great bard that this sculpture commemorates. Designed by Charles Clement Walker and sculpted by Charles J Allen, the work remembers the men (Shakespeare's fellow actors at the Globe Theatre) who posthumously gathered his plays and poetry together in the First Folio edition (one of the 14 remaining "perfect" copies of which is housed in Guildhall Library). The sculpture originally stood in the middle of the churchyard. The footprint of the church itself, St Mary Aldermanbury, can still be seen within the garden. Designed by Wren, the church suffered huge damage during the Blitz with only its walls left standing. In 1966, the walls were transported stone by stone to Fulton in Missouri (USA) and the church was rebuilt there in the grounds of Westminster College as a memorial to Sir Winston Churchill.



*Go down Aldermanbury until on your left you will see an entrance into a large courtyard. This is Guildhall Yard*



### **Guildhall Yard**

Aside from the church, the buildings surrounding this paved area are owned and managed by the City of London Corporation (the organisation that provides local government services for the City). Ahead of you is Guildhall Art Gallery which, as well as its superb collection of paintings, is home to London's only Roman Amphitheatre, the outline of which is marked out on the yard with black paving.



### **Guildhall Art Gallery / Roman London's Amphitheatre**

Established in 1885 and re-opened in its current, purpose-built home in 1999, Guildhall Art Gallery is famous for Victorian paintings and pictures that tell the story of London for more than 300 years. Its centrepiece is one of the UK's largest paintings, John Singleton Copley's *The Defeat of the Floating Batteries at Gibraltar, 1782*, while beneath the Gallery (and included in the admission price) lie the evocatively displayed remains of London's long-lost Roman amphitheatre. There is also an exciting and varied programme of temporary exhibitions, mostly on London themes.

*Behind you and to the left are the buildings that make up Guildhall (the home of City government for over 1,000 years which remain the offices of the City of London Corporation); the church is St Lawrence Jewry, the City Corporation's church.*



### **Church of St Lawrence Jewry**

This church is dedicated to St Lawrence who was martyred on a gridiron by Emperor Valerian in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. The "Jewry" part of its name derives from the Jews that used to inhabit in this area before they were expelled by Edward I in 1290. It is another church designed by Sir Christopher Wren after its predecessor was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666.



**Open Monday to Friday**

If you step into the Guildhall reception area (entrance by the pond) you can visit the magnificent Great Hall and the impressive Clockmaker's Museum. Here you will also find the **Guildhall Library Shop**. Feel free to visit and browse through the many interesting London books, and beautiful post cards and posters.



### **Guildhall**

Guildhall has been the seat of City government since the Middle Ages. Begun in 1411, it is the oldest secular stone structure in the City. Its imposing medieval Great Hall – the third largest civic hall in England – has been the setting for famous state trials, including that of Lady Jane Grey in 1553. Within the hall itself are monuments to national heroes including Admiral Lord Nelson, the Duke of Wellington and Sir Winston Churchill, while beneath it are the largest medieval crypts in London. Today, Guildhall still plays an important role both for the City and nationally. It provides a venue for meetings of the City of London's elected assembly – the Court of Common Council – and it welcomes royalty and other dignitaries from across the globe for state banquets and civic functions.

**Open every day, but can close at short notice and times may vary**



### **The Clockmakers' Museum**

Housed in Guildhall is this unusual museum. Begun in 1814, this fascinating collection of clocks and watches is the oldest of its kind in the world. Some 600 English and European watches, 30 clocks and 15 marine timekeepers, together with a number of rare clock-related portraits, form a sparkling display in this single room. The majority of items date from around 1600 to 1850.

**Open Monday to Saturday**



*Walk out of the main entrance of Guildhall. Exit left and turn right and walk between the pond and church – you are now on Gresham Street. Turn left and walk straight ahead. Follow Gresham Street, this will lead you into Lothbury. To your right is a very large and imposing building (the Bank of England: this is actually the back of the building). Follow this building round to the right; you are now in Bartholomew Lane.*

*On the side of the building (on your right) is an entrance to*



### **Bank of England Museum**

The Bank of England is at the very heart of the UK's financial system. This museum which traces its history, from foundation by Royal Charter in 1694 to its role today as the nation's central bank, boasts many attractions, activities and events, including interactive displays and the rare opportunity to hold a real gold bar.

**Open Monday to Friday**



*Exit the museum and turn right. At the junction with Threadneedle Street, turn right and follow the building along. Cross over left into a small piazza to the statue of the rider, the Duke of Wellington. You are now in Bank Junction. Ahead and slightly to your left is the imposing colonnade of Mansion House*



### **Mansion House**

Mansion House is one of the grandest surviving Georgian town palaces in London, with magnificent interiors containing elaborate plasterwork and carved timber ornament. It is the purpose-built home of the Lord Mayor of the City of London, providing living and working space for him and his household as well as rooms for large ceremonial events and banquets. The building of Mansion House was first considered after the Great Fire in 1666, but the first stone was not laid until 1739. A fashionable Palladian style with a large classical portico was chosen by the City's Clerk of Works, George Dance the Elder. Built around a central courtyard it contained a cellar, a ground floor for the servants and a kitchen; a grand first floor of offices, dining and reception rooms, including the Egyptian Hall where banquets are held; a second floor with a gallery for dancing and chambers for the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress; and a third floor of bedchambers. Mansion House was originally intended to enable the Lord Mayor to represent the City's contribution to London in appropriate style, and it continues to fulfill this function.



*Behind the Wellington statue is the Royal Exchange. Walk up the steps and go inside*



### The Royal Exchange

A Grade 1 listed building, the Royal Exchange was first built in 1565 by Sir Thomas Gresham as a centre of commerce for the City. It was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth I who awarded the building its royal title in 1571. Built as a trading floor, its central courtyard was used by the merchants of London to trade in teas, herbs and spices etc. The original exchange was destroyed by the Great Fire of 1666. A second was built in 1669 and (again) destroyed by fire in 1838. The third exchange – and the one we see today – was designed by Sir William Tite and opened by Queen Victoria in 1844. With the outbreak of the Second World War, trading at the exchange almost ended and, in 1953, a theatre company took over the courtyard – their first play was Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. Today, it is home to luxury shops and houses an array of bespoke jewellers and designer labels. These brands, combined with its unique heritage and superior dining, make a visit like a trip back in time, when elegance and personalised service were the order of the day.

**Open Monday to Friday.**



*Walk through and exit opposite where you entered. As you exit, right in front of you will see*



### Monument to Baron Paul Julius von Reuter

Designed by Theo Crosby and sculpted by Michael Black in 1976, this Cornish white granite statue commemorates Paul Julius Reuter. His story is told in the inscription beneath the bust.



*Look on your left and you will see a statue of*



### George Peabody

This bronze statue on a red granite plinth (base is grey granite), was sculpted by William Wetmore Story in 1867-9. Peabody (1795-1869) was a merchant in Baltimore (USA) who made a fortune importing dried

British goods. He moved to London in 1838 and set up offices at 31 Moorgate in the City. On retiring, he devoted his life to charitable activities, setting up the Peabody Donation Fund to help the honest and industrious poor of London. Eventually the trustees decided to use this fund to provide cheap and healthy housing for the poor. Today, dotted around London are many Peabody dwellings.



*At Reuter's statue turn right into Cornhill. Cross the road and keep walking down Cornhill until you reach Gracechurch Street. Cross the road and walk along what is now Leadenhall Street. On your right you will see the famous Lloyd's of London building*



### The Lloyd's Building

Home of Lloyd's of London, this building was designed by Richard Rogers and built over eight years from 1978 to 1986. Like the Pompidou Centre in Paris (designed by Renzo Piano and Rogers), its design is innovative in that its services (such as staircases, lifts, electrical power conduits and water pipes) are on the outside, leaving a clean uncluttered space inside. The Lloyd's Building is approximately 76m tall and has 14 floors. It is named after its occupier which, in turn, is named after Edward Lloyd – a man who founded a coffee shop near this site in 1688. Coffee shops (or houses) played an important part in the City becoming the financial and business centre it is today. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, with no formal communications systems, they were the place to pick up news and were a lifeline for those wanting to stay ahead of the game. Gradually, different houses began to attract different occupations and businessmen started to keep regular hours at their chosen tables. Inevitably, some houses became the makeshift offices of the trades they served, giving birth to some of the world's greatest financial institutions – this one and the London Stock Exchange which started life in Jonathan's Coffeehouse in Change Alley are, perhaps, the most famous.



*Across the road on your left you will see a church called St Andrew Undershaft*



### **St Andrew Undershaft against 30 St Mary Axe**

Here is the extraordinary juxtaposition of two magnificent buildings – the medieval church of St Andrew Undershaft nestling up to Sir Norman Foster’s mighty ‘Gherkin’. It is one of only a few City churches to survive both the Great Fire of 1666 and the Blitz but, in 1992, it was damaged by an IRA bomb attack that was set off nearby. 30 St Mary’s Axe is widely known by the nickname “The Gherkin”. It is 180m tall, making it the second-tallest building in the City, after Tower 42. Constructed between 2001 and 2004, its distinctive cone-like shape reduces wind turbulence. However, despite its overall curved glass shape, there is only one piece of curved glass on the building — a lens-shaped cap at the very top. The Gherkin won the RIBA Stirling Prize in 2004 (the first time that the prize jury was unanimous) and the 2003 Emporis Skyscraper Award for the best skyscraper in the world.

 **Open by arrangement**



*Turn back to the Lloyd’s building, continue along Lime Street taking your first right, this will lead you into*



#### **Leadenhall Market**

The site on which Leadenhall Market stands has been a market since the 14<sup>th</sup> century and was the place to buy fish, meat, poultry and corn. In the Great Fire of 1666, parts of it were destroyed but it was rebuilt in 1881 by the City’s architect Horace Jones (this is the structure you see today). Restored to its original Victorian splendour, with cobbled alleyways, wrought ironwork and traditional pink paintwork, Leadenhall Market houses a combination of shops, restaurants and wine bars. A celebrated City character in market life here was Old Tom, a gander that managed to escape execution when 34,000 geese were slaughtered in two days. Fed at the local inns, Old Tom became a favourite amongst the market’s traders and customers. After his death in 1835 at the age of 38, he lay in state in the market before being buried here. If the market looks familiar – it was used to represent the area of London near the Leaky Cauldron and Diagon Alley in the film *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*. Before you leave, spare a few minutes to gaze up at the ceiling above the central part of the marketplace – magical.



*Exit the market directly at the opposite side in which you came in (Gracechurch Street), turn left and continue straight on. Cross over Fenchurch Street and keep walking ahead until you reach*



#### **Eastcheap**

The “cheap” in Eastcheap’s name means “market”. Eastcheap was chiefly a meat market occupied by butchers and cooks. It was named Eastcheap to differentiate it from another famous City street “West Cheap” (now Cheapside).



*From here you can see The Monument, cross over and walk towards it*



#### **The Monument**

Built between 1671 and 1677 to commemorate the Great Fire of London and celebrate the rebuilding of the City, the Monument was designed by Sir Christopher Wren and his friend and colleague, Dr Robert Hooke. The colossal Doric column contains a cantilevered stone staircase of 311 steps leading to a viewing platform. It is surmounted by a drum and a copper urn from which flames emerge, symbolising the Great Fire. It is 61m high - the exact distance between it and the site in Pudding Lane where the fire began.



**The Monument is undergoing a huge restoration programme and is due to open to the public again in February 2009**



*As you face the Monument, turn left into Monument Street then directly left again, up Pudding Lane*



#### **Pudding Lane**

The Great Fire of 1666 began in a baker’s house in this street on Sunday 2 September. It was finally extinguished on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September, after destroying vast areas of the City including thousands of houses, hundreds of streets, the City’s gates and St. Paul’s Cathedral. The then Lord Mayor,

Thomas Bludworth, was raised from his bed in the early hours to inspect the fire. Distinctly unimpressed, he declared "a woman could piss it out" before returning to his slumber. Five days later only a fifth of the City remained standing.



*Continue up Pudding Lane, back to Eastcheap and go right. As you walk along, Eastcheap seamlessly joins Great Tower Street. On your left, on the other side of the road, you will see a church*



### **The Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens**

Built by Wren in 1685-87, this church replaces one that was destroyed by the Great Fire. The church is named after St Margaret of Antioch – however, the "Pattens" part of the name was added to distinguish it from other churches nearby at the time that were also named St Margaret. It is thought that the "Pattens" refers to a type of "undershoe" consisting of a wooden sole fitted with leather straps and mounted on a large metal ring to raise the wearer from the muddy roads. It is believed these were made nearby.

 **Open Monday to Friday**



*Continue a little further down Great Tower street and turn right turn into St Dunstan's Hill to find the remains of what once was a church called St Dunstan in the East*



### **St Dunstan in the East**

The first church built on this site dates from 1100. Originally built in gothic style, it was badly damaged in 1666 by the Great Fire of London. Partly rebuilt, thanks also to the contributions of Sir Christopher Wren, (tower and steeple) St Dunstan was again severely damaged during the Blitz in 1941. In the 1960s the City of London Corporation decided to turn the ruins into a garden and in 1971 this outstanding little space was open to the public. The gardens won the Landscape heritage Award in 1976. One of the most beautiful best kept secret in the City, it now represents an idyllic little oasis of peace and tranquillity.



*Walk out of the gardens the same way you came in and turn left into Great Tower Street until the junction with Byward Street*



### **Byward Street**

This street's name comes from the Byward Tower of the nearby Tower of London where, at night, the password, or "byword", had to be given.



*In front of you can see a church called*



### **All Hallows-by-the-Tower**

This is reputed to be the oldest church in the City with parts of the building dating from around 675AD. Following execution on nearby Tower Hill, many beheaded bodies – including those of Thomas More, Bishop John Fisher and Archbishop Laud – were brought into this church. It was one of only a few City churches to survive the Great Fire and it was from its tower that Samuel Pepys watched as the City blazed. William Penn – founder of Pennsylvania – was baptised here and John Quincy Adams, the 6<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was married here in 1797. The church sustained substantial damage during the Second World War with only its side walls and tower surviving.



*Continue along Byward Street as it becomes Tower Hill. To your left you will see*



### **Trinity House**

Home to the Corporation of Trinity House, the building you see here was designed by Samuel Wyatt and built in 1796. With the safety of shipping, and the well being of seafarers having been its prime concerns since it was granted a charter by Henry VIII in 1514, the Corporation of Trinity House is the official General Lighthouse Authority for England, Wales, the Channel Islands and Gibraltar. It is responsible for the provision and maintenance of navigational aids such as lighthouses and radar beacons. Trinity House is also the official Deep Sea Pilotage Authority providing expert navigators for ships trading in northern European waters.



*The road you are now standing on is*



### **Tower Hill**

Tower Hill was the main place where traitors were executed after being imprisoned in the Tower of London. A little further on from Trinity House (above) and in front of it (again, on the opposite side of the road), is the Marine and Navy Memorial dedicated to the merchant seamen of the two world wars. The 1914-1918 memorial was designed by Edwin Lutyens and the 1939-1945 one by Edward Maufe. In front of the memorial is the place where public executions were held (marked out by chained fencing). A plaque records the deaths of Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury (1381), Sir Thomas More (1535), Lord Darcy (1537) and over 120 others.



*Here you will notice two dragons one on each side of the road: you are now leaving the City. Cross over at the crossing and in front of you is*



### **Tower of London**

Royal Palace and fortress, armoury, prison, Royal Mint and home to the crown jewels, HM Tower of London has played many roles throughout its turbulent 900-year history. Founded by William the Conqueror in 1066-7, it is one of Britain's most visited historic sites. Famous characters to have met their end there are the "Princes in the Tower", Anne Boleyn and Lady Jane Grey; while other inmates include Guy Fawkes, Princess Elizabeth (later Elizabeth I) and the Kray twins.

 **Open every day.**



*Walk down towards the river and on your left you will see the magnificent*



### **Tower Bridge**

In October 1884, Horace Jones, the City Architect, in collaboration with John Wolfe Barry, put forward the design chosen for Tower Bridge. It took eight years, five major

contractors and the labour of 432 construction workers to build. Two massive piers had to be sunk into the river bed to support the construction and over 11,000 tons of steel provided the framework for the towers and walkways. When it was built, Tower Bridge was the largest and most sophisticated bascule bridge ever built ("bascule" comes from the French for "see-saw"). It was hydraulically-operated, using steam to power the enormous pumping engines. The energy created was then stored in six massive accumulators so that, as soon as power was required to lift the bridge, it was readily available. The accumulators fed the driving engines, which drove the bascules up and down. Despite the complexity of the system, the bascules only took about a minute to rise to their maximum 86 degrees. Nowadays, the bascules are still operated by hydraulic power, but since 1976 they have been driven by oil and electricity rather than steam.



*Walk along the river and past under the bridge. On the other side is St Katharine Docks – there you can enjoy some refreshment amid the tranquillity of the bars and boats that populate this area. Alternatively, head back towards Tower Hill station (5 minutes walk).*

**END**